

Seven Steps to Organic Certification

Contact the WSDA Organic Food Program.

We will send you an application packet and Organic Certification Guide.

Read the WSDA Certification Guide.

The guide will provide answers to commonly asked questions about organic certification.

Complete and submit the application forms with the appropriate fee.

Application review and approval.

We will review your application to ensure it complies with National Organic Standards.

Organic Food Inspection

An organic inspection of your business will occur.

Inspection report review.

We will review your inspection report to ensure that your business complies with National Organic Standards.

Certification status notification.

You will be notified of the organic status of your business.



Labeling Organic Food Products

All products making organic label claims must comply with National Organic Standards. Types of labels include: retail packages, wholesale packages/shipping containers, organic livestock feed.

Retail Packages:

Requirements are divided into four categories based on the amount of organic ingredients in the product.

Wholesale Packages/Shipping Containers:

Must be labeled to ensure that the organic identity of the product is traceable.

Livestock Feed:

Labeling requirements are specified in NOP 205.306.



WSDA Organic Food Program

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Organic Food Program



Organic Labeling Requirements



100% Organic

Must:

- Be made entirely of 100% organic ingredients and processing aids.
- Identify all organic ingredients as “organic” on the ingredient statement if the product is multi-ingredient.
- Include the statement “Certified Organic by Certifier Name” directly adjacent to the name of the manufacturer or distributor of the product.

Optional:

- Use the USDA Organic Seal per the National Organic Program requirements.
- Use the WSDA Organic Seal.
- Use the 100% qualifier on the principal display panel.

“Organic”

95% - 100% Organic Ingredients

Must:

- Contain at least 95% organic ingredients.
- Contain all organic agricultural ingredients unless they are not commercially available.
- Identify all organic ingredients as “organic” on the ingredient statement.
- Include the statement “Certified Organic by Certifier Name” directly adjacent to the name of the manufacturer or distributor of the product.
- Contain only non-agricultural ingredients that are on the National List (NOP 205.605).

Optional:

- Identify the percentage of organic ingredients.
- Use the USDA Organic Seal per the National Organic Program requirements.
- Use the WSDA Organic Seal.



Made with Organic Ingredients

70-95% Organic Ingredients

Must:

- Contain at least 70% organic ingredients.
- Identify all organic ingredients as “organic” on the ingredient statement.
- Include the statement “Certified Organic by Certifier Name” directly adjacent to the name of the manufacturer or distributor of the product.
- Non-organic ingredients may not be produced using prohibited practices (genetic modification, sewage sludge, ionizing radiation).

Must Not:

- Use the USDA Organic Seal.

Optional:

- Identify the percentage of organic ingredients.
- Use the WSDA Organic Seal.
- Use the statement “Made with Organic (ingredients or food groups).” Note: The statement may not list more than three ingredients or food groups.

Organic Claim on the Information Panel Only

70% or less organic ingredients

Must:

- Identify organic ingredients as “organic” in the ingredient statement if the % of organic ingredients is displayed on the information panel.

Must Not:

- Be labeled as “Organic” on the principal display panel.
- Use the USDA Seal.
- Use the WSDA Seal.

Optional:

- Identify the percentage of organic ingredients.
- The product may contain more than 70% organic ingredients.

NOTE:

If all organic claims are limited to the information panel, the product is not required to be certified organic.

